

Steering Committee Meeting Summary

February 11, 1998

Topics:

- Nevada Low-Level Waste Forum
- Reorganization of the Citizens Advisory Board
- New membership

Attendees:

CAB members:	John Applegate Jim Bierer Lisa Crawford Pam Dunn Doug Sarno Bob Tabor Gene Willeke
DOE:	Gary Stegner
Fluor Daniel Fernald:	Tisha Patton
OEPA:	Graham Mitchell Tom Schneider
USEPA:	Gene Jablonowski

Results:

- March 11, 1998, meeting to review past recommendations and develop a conflict of interest statement

Meeting Summary:

Low-Level Waste Forum

John Applegate began the meeting with a decision of the Low-Level Waste Forum to be held in Nevada, April 6-8. He, Mary Bryan (Oak Ridge), Tom Marshall (Rocky Flats), and Marilyn Reeves (Hanford) are interested in using the forum as an opportunity to have discussions between the SSABs. However, the forum will be used to provide information only. Since the forum will be providing information on NTS, it will have limited use to the FCAB. Lisa wanted all stakeholders to be allowed to attend the forum, not just members of the SSABs. John explained that the forum had been limited to the SSABs because it was initially going to be a mini-National Dialogue. Since this is no longer the case, the forum will no longer be limited to the SSABs. Rocky Flats and Hanford do not want to attend since the forum will have little use for their SSABs. Fernald should attend, however, because of the relationship Fernald has developed with the Nevada CAB. Gene Willeke thinks that the forum still could be useful to the FCAB since the FCAB could use this opportunity pass on the knowledge it has gained to other SSABs. The Nevada CAB is using its \$75,000 travel stipend from DOE for the forum, so it is officially not sanctioned by DOE as a DOE event. On Monday, there will be an all day tour of the NTS. On Tuesday, each site will have a few minutes to make presentations. Wednesday morning will consist of a dialogue session followed by a chairs meeting that afternoon. John wanted feedback on which members should attend. The committee agreed that between two and five long-standing members will attend. John will not be able to attend and Jim will go in his place.

Reorganization

Doug Sarno then presented a proposed reorganization for the committees. The idea behind the reorganization is to spread the workload evenly among the committees. Basically, the committees will be

reorganized into an on-site, an off-site, and an efficiency committee. In addition, the philosophy behind the committees will change; the committees will not be developing the ideas and presenting them to the full Board. From now on, the initial idea and presentation will be made at the full Board meeting and the committees will use their time to further investigate the matter. In this way, the committee can get a sense of how the entire Board feels and use this information in developing its recommendations. The new committee structure is as follows:

- Off-Site Committee: Silos, Waste Pits, Transportation/Off-Site Disposal
Chairs: Wagner and Willeke
- On-Site Committee: OSDF, Soils, Groundwater, D&D, Natural Resources/Land Use, Monitoring , Recycling
Chairs: Dunn and Bierer
- Efficiency Committee: Special Nuclear Materials, Mortgage Reduction, Budget, Priorities
Chairs: Crawford and Tabor

This new committee structure is in line with the project management structure used on the site. If in the future issues change, the committee structure may change. This organization is not irreversible. The new committee structure will be brought before the full Board in March.

Members of the steering committee also expressed interest in returning to monthly CAB meetings. However, monthly CAB meetings would decrease the role for the committees and Doug can not afford to attend monthly meetings. Instead, Doug suggested a set schedule for committees meetings. After some discussion, the committee agreed the future committee meetings would be held on the Wednesday and Thursday of the second week of each month. This would coordinate the meetings with the Monthly Progress Briefing and the bi-monthly CAB Meetings.

Gene was concerned about the implications of introducing issues to the full Board and not to the committees. He feels that it is better to let the committee digest the information and come to the Board with something to discuss. John, however, feels that the Board meetings need to be more interesting in order to entice people to come. With the introduction of new ideas, there will be more discussion.

Membership

Connie Fox has resigned from the Board because of other obligations. Now the Board has two gaps: a Hamilton County representative and a member of a national environmental group. The Cincinnati/Hamilton County Environmental Affairs was suggested as a place to look for potential new members. John has pursued this and spoken to Karen Lukin. She felt that it would be a conflict of interest for her to serve on the Board. Pam Dunn agreed that Karen would be a good candidate. John will continue to keep in touch with her.

Gene expressed concern that the relationship between the FCAB and DOE/FDF was beginning to turn sour. He would like to see the groups continue to be amicable towards each other. John did not see this but agreed that the FCAB's response to the white metal box incident was the strongest statement the FCAB had ever made. DOE, however, does not take these comments personally and the FCAB should not shy away from making these types of statements. Pam thought the issue stemmed from people only looking at the bad side of things at the site. She would like to see both positive and negative progress tracked. John felt that a graphic presentation of progress at the site would be very useful in portraying this.

The next committee meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, March 11, 1998 at 6:30 p.m. in order to review past recommendations and develop a conflict of interest statement.